

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 04310 281836Z

43

ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 OES-03 EPA-01 NSF-01 AID-05

CEQ-01 CIAE-00 OFA-01 DODE-00 EB-07 INR-07 IO-10 L-02

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8718

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: SENV TPHY US US

SUBJ: US-USSR ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENT: PROJECT VII-1.2: DIFFERENCES
IN MEMORANDUM INTERPRETATION.

REF: A. STATE 60857; B. STATE 37334; C. MOSCOW 3206; D. STATE 48872

1. SCICOUNS MET WITH HYDROMET IN ORDER TO DISCUSS THE DIFFERENCES
IN INTERPRETATION OF JCM DECEMBER 1974 MEMORANDUM. AT ISSUE ARE TWO
ITEMS

AT BOTTOM OF PAGE 17 (ENGLISH VERSION TEXT). FIRST ITEM IS A
US VISIT TO THE USSR TO DISCUSS ATMOSPHERIC OPTICS AND AEROSOLS
SECOND IS RESEARCH TO BE CARRIED OUT BY US EXCHANGEES DURING
SECOND HALF OF 1975 AT THE MAIN GEOPHYSICAL OBSERVATORY IN
LENINGRAD, SPECIFICALLY TO MEASURE MINOR CONSTITUENTS IN THE
ATMOSPHERE.

2. RELATING TO THE SECOND ITEMS, THE SOVIETS ARE WAITING FOR
AN ANSWER TO THE BORISENKOV/EPSTEIN LETTER (UNDATED) WHICH WAS
POUCHED REGISTRY NUMBER 2404011 TO THE DEPARTMENT. IN THIS
LETTER BORISENKOV PROPOSES THAT TWO EXPERTS COME FOR 90 DAYS
EACH.

3. RELATING TO THE FIRST ITEM, THE SOVIET CLAIM THAT THERE
IS AN ORAL UNDERSTANDING TO WHICH MARTINEAU WAS A PARTY
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LAST DECEMBER. THE UNDERSTANDING IS THAT A JOINT BALLOON

EXPERIMENT AND RESEARCH MIGHT BECOME SUBSTITUTED FOR ITEM ONE. THE WORDING WAS DELIBERATELY VAGUE TO GUARANTEE FLEXIBILITY FOR AND PERMIT THE LONG SOUGHT AFTER WORKING GROUP BALLOON PROJECT (REF D AND A). THE SOVIETS PREFER JOINT WORK TO JUST DISCUSSIONS AND WOULD BE APPRECIATIVE IF THIS WERE ACCEPTABLE TO EPSTEIN. THE DETAILED PROGRAM FOR THIS PROJECT WILL BE TRANSMITTED IN A LETTER FROM KONDRATYEV AND BORISENKOV. ACCORDING TO HYDROMET INTENSIVE PREPARATIONS ARE BEING CARRIED OUT AT THIS TIME AND IT WOULD BE VERY DISAPPOINTING IF THIS JOINT WORK WERE NOT TO MATERIALIZE.

4. SCICOUNS POINTED OUT TO HYDROMET THAT THE WRITTEN RECORD IS CLEAR AND IT SPECIFIES A MEETING, NOT A BALLOON EXPERIMENT. HE FURTHER POINTED OUT THAT NEITHER HE NOR MR. WARD, WHO ATTENDED THE LAST JC MEETING WAS AWARE OF ABOVE ORAL AGREEMENT. HE STRESSED THAT THE SOVIETS HAVE ALWAYS MAINTAINED THAT ONLY JC AND NOT WG DECISIONS ARE BINDING.

5. DURING FOLLOWING INFORMAL DISCUSSION SCICOUNS RECEIVED A SUGGESTION TO COMBINE BALLOON EXPERIMENT (REF D) WITH U.S. PROPOSED MEETING (REF B) BY SELECTION THE RIGHT KIND OF MEMBERS FOR A SINGLE DELEGATION. THIS WOULD NOT REQUIRE A CHANGE DEVIATING FROM THE JC MEMORANDUM AUTHORIZATION.

6. PLEASE ADVISE.
STOESSEL

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